



Service and Sacrifice

The Basis of Liberation from Suffering

Three Factors

- ✿ 1. Death
- ✿ 2. Birth
- ✿ 3. Sacrifice

Jesus:

“If any will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.” -
Matthew 16:24

Three Factors

Synthesis of Buddhism:

“Commit not a single unwholesome action, cultivate a wealth of virtue, tame this mind of ours; this is the teaching of all the buddhas.”

The Three Grounds:

- ~ **bhavana:** cultivation of “mind” / consciousness
- ~ **dana:** generosity, giving
- ~ **sila:** virtue, morality, purity

SERVICE

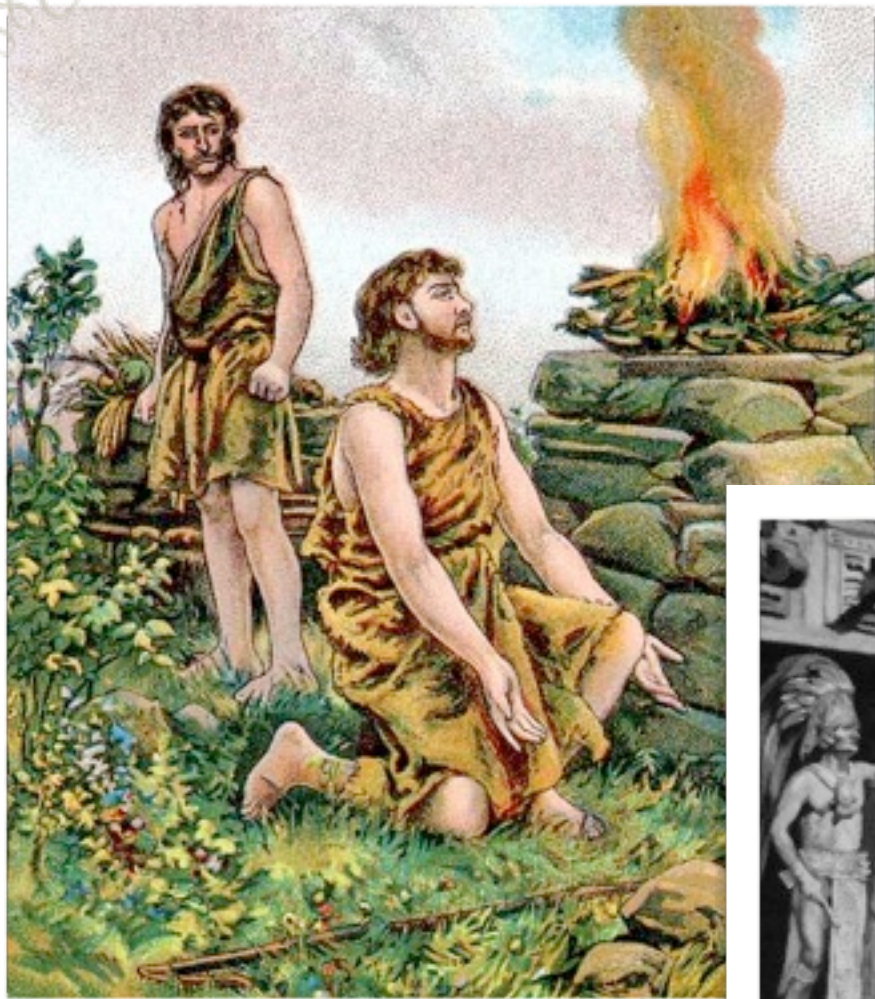
c.1100, “celebration of public worship,” from Old French *servise*, from Latin *servitium* “slavery, servitude,” from *servus* “slave”

Sanskrit: सेवा **Seva**, used in Karma Yoga. “service, devotion, worship, reverence, sexual intercourse”

SACRIFICE

from Old French *sacrifise* (12c.), from Latin *sacrificium*, from *sacrificus* “performing priestly functions or sacrifices,” from *sacra* “sacred rites” (properly neuter plural of *sacer* “sacred”) + root of *facere* “to do, perform”

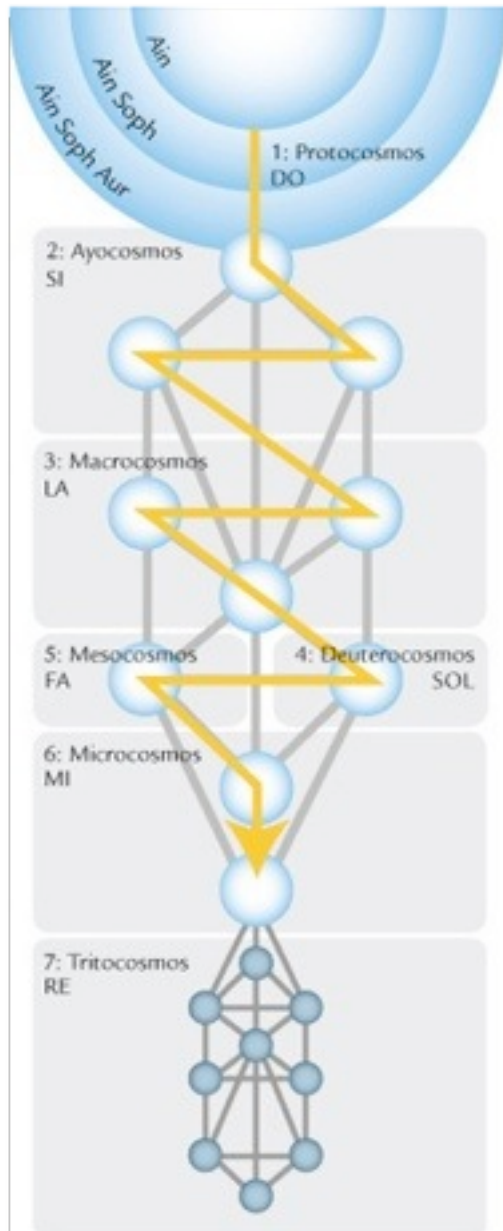
Hebrew זָבַח: zabach nm. “sacrifice, offering; feast; slaughter.” v. “to sacrifice, slaughter; slay, kill”



All whosoever who are happy in the world
Are (so) through the wish for the happiness of others;
While all whosoever who are miserable in the world
Are (so) through the wish for the happiness of themselves.

But what need is there to elaborate more?
Just look at the difference between the two:
An infantile person acting for his own self-aims
And Sage (Buddha) acting for the aims of others.

- Bodhisattvacharyavatara by Shantideva



Three forces create life,
through:

- * 1. Death
- * 2. Birth
- * 3. Sacrifice

“Action does indeed bind the Self
except when done as sacrifice;
So action must be consecrated,
offered to Deity high above.

“When beings came from Creator
He ordained all to sacrifice;
By sacrifice are worlds sustained
And by it everyone does live.”



INRI

Ignis naturae
renewatur integra

“Things exist through all other things,
all things are knit with all others,
so that the being of a thing
is contribution by others.

“No one exists independently
as all are, also all others,
thus existence of anything
is sacrifice by other things.”

“All is, then, sacrifice alone,
As **Yajna** known, the holy deed
One does belongs wholly
To everyone and everything.”

- Bhagavad-gita

Yajna

यज्ञ Sanskrit; “Sacrifice, fire, worship, offering, praise, prayer, devotion.” From:

ya यः “light, wind, carriage, mover, joiner”

jna ज्ञः “consciousness, knowledge, understanding, knowing, wise, having a soul, thinking soul, planet Mars, planet Mercury”

Prajna

प्रज्ञा Sanskrit; the highest paramita.

“Intelligence, wisdom, awareness.” From:

pra यः “before”

jna ज्ञः “consciousness, knowledge, or understanding.” “intelligent, knowing, wise, having a soul, thinking soul, planet Mars, planet Mercury”

Generosity

1. Dana दान

2. Sila: Ethics, morality, discipline.

3. Kshanti: Patience

4. Virya: Energy, diligence

5. Dhyana: Concentration

6. Prajna: Wisdom

Three Types

- ~ 1. to give the teachings that liberate the consciousness from suffering
- ~ 2. to give fearlessness, protection
- ~ 3. to give material things



“The world is bound by actions other than those performed for the sake of sacrifice; do thou, therefore, O son of Kunti, perform action for that sake (for sacrifice) alone, free from attachment!” - Bhagavad-gita